

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of requesting a resource over at least one network, the method comprising:

receiving a resource request for the resource at a network entity, the resource request including a group header identifier;

5 identifying at least one header field associated with the group header identifier at the network entity; and

processing the resource request in accordance with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier.

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2. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising:

associating the at least one header field with the group header identifier before receiving the resource request for the resource.

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3. A method according to Claim 2, wherein associating the at least one header field with the group header identifier comprises:

receiving an earlier request at the network entity from a terminal, the earlier request including at least one header field and a call for associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier;

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associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier; and

sending the group header identifier to the terminal.

4. A method according to Claim 3 further comprising:

receiving a subsequent request at the network entity from the terminal after sending the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including the group header identifier and an alternative at least one header field; and

associating the alternative at least one header field with the group header identifier.

5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the network entity comprises an origin server, and wherein processing the resource request comprises processing the resource request at the origin server.

5 6. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the network entity comprises a gateway, wherein the method further comprises:
substituting the group header identifier in the resource request with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier after identifying the at least one header field; and
10 sending the resource request including the substituted at least one header field to an origin server,
and wherein processing the resource request comprises processing the resource request at the origin server.

15 7. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising:
sending the resource request for the resource to the network entity from a terminal before receiving the resource request, wherein sending the resource request comprises sending the resource request to the network entity at least partially over a wireless link.

20 8. A system for requesting a resource over at least one network, the system comprising:
a network entity capable of receiving a resource request for the resource, the resource request including a group header identifier, wherein the network entity is capable of identifying at least one header field associated with the group header identifier
25 such that the resource request can be processed in accordance with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier.

30 9. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the network entity is capable of associating the at least one header field with the group header identifier before receiving the resource request for the resource.

10. A system according to Claim 9, wherein the network entity is capable of receiving an earlier request from a terminal, the earlier request including at least one header field and a call for associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier, wherein the network entity is capable of associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier, and thereafter sending the group header identifier to the terminal.

11. A system according to Claim 10, wherein the network entity is capable of receiving a subsequent request from the terminal after sending the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including the group header identifier and an alternative at least one header field, and wherein the network entity is capable of associating the alternative at least one header field with the group header identifier.

12. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the network entity comprises an origin server.

13. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the network entity comprises a gateway, wherein the gateway is capable of substituting the group header identifier in the resource request with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier after identifying the at least one header field, and wherein the system further comprises:

an origin server capable of receiving the resource request including the substituted at least one header field from the gateway, and thereafter processing the resource request.

25 14. A system according to Claim 8 further comprising:
a terminal capable of sending the resource request for the resource to the network entity, wherein the terminal is capable of sending the resource request at least partially over a wireless link.

30 15. A system of requesting a resource over at least one network, the system comprising:

a terminal capable of sending a resource request for the resource to a network entity, the resource request including a group header identifier, wherein the terminal is capable of sending the resource request such that the network entity can identify at least one header field associated with the group header identifier, and such that the resource 5 request can be processed in accordance with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier.

16. A system according to Claim 15, wherein the terminal is capable of calling for the network entity to associate the at least one header field with the group header 10 identifier before sending the resource request for the resource.

17. A system according to Claim 16, wherein the terminal is capable of sending an earlier request to the network entity, the earlier request including at least one header field and a call for associating the at least one header field with a group header 15 identifier, wherein the terminal is capable of sending the earlier request such that the network entity associates the at least one header field with a group header identifier, and thereafter sends the group header identifier to the terminal.

18. A system according to Claim 17, wherein the terminal is capable of sending a subsequent request to the network entity after the network entity sends the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including the group header identifier and an alternative at least one header field, and wherein the terminal is capable of sending the subsequent request such that the network entity associates the alternative at least one header field with the group header identifier.

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19. A system according to Claim 15, wherein the terminal is capable of sending the resource request to a network entity comprising an origin server such that the origin server can process the resource request.

30 20. A system according to Claim 15, wherein the terminal is capable of sending the resource request to a network entity comprising a gateway such that the

gateway can substitute the group header identifier in the request with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier after identifying the at least one header field, and such that the gateway can send the request including the substituted at least one header field to an origin server that can process the request.

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21. A system according to Claim 15, wherein the terminal is capable of sending the resource request for the resource to the network entity at least partially over a wireless link.

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22. A computer program product for requesting a resource over at least one network, the computer program product comprising a computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code portions stored therein, the computer-readable program code portions comprising:

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a first executable portion for receiving a resource request for the resource at a network entity, the resource request including a group header identifier;

a second executable portion for identifying at least one header field associated with the group header identifier at the network entity; and

a third executable portion for processing the resource request in accordance with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier.

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23. A computer program product according to Claim 22 further comprising:
a fourth executable portion for associating the at least one header field with the group header identifier before the first executable portion receives the resource request for the resource.

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24. A computer program product according to Claim 23, wherein the fourth executable portion is adapted to associate the at least one header field with the group header identifier by:

receiving an earlier request at the network entity from a terminal, the earlier request including at least one header field and a call for associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier;

associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier; and sending the group header identifier to the terminal.

25. A computer program product according to Claim 24 further comprising:

5 a fifth executable portion for receiving a subsequent request at the network entity from the terminal after sending the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including the group header identifier and an alternative at least one header field; and

10 a sixth executable portion for associating the alternative at least one header field with the group header identifier.

26. A computer program product according to Claim 22, wherein the third executable portion is adapted to process the resource request at an origin server.

15 27. A computer program product according to Claim 22 further comprising:

a fourth executable portion for substituting the group header identifier in the resource request with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier after identifying the at least one header field; and

20 a fifth executable portion for sending the resource request including the substituted at least one header field to an origin server,

wherein the third executable portion is adapted to process the resource request at the origin server.

28. A computer program product according to Claim 22, wherein the first executable portion is adapted to receive the resource request from a terminal at least 25 partially over a wireless link.